

# Higher Education Virtual Conference

February 20, 2024

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### **CPE Information**

You need to attend 200 minutes to receive the full 4 CPE credits.

•16 Attendance Markers that read: "I'm Here," will be launched during this session. You must respond to a minimum of 12 to receive the full 4 CPE credits.





### Today's Agenda

Introduction
Impact of the Inflation Reduction Act and Other Hot Topics
Break
Stress and Burnout: Understanding, Exploration, and Survival
Break
Capital Projects – Protecting Your Investment
Break
Navigating the Consolidation Wave: Mergers and Acquisitions
Closing





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### **Opening Message**



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## The Impact of the Inflation Reduction Act on Higher Education and Other Hot Topics

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### Learning Objectives

- Review the benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act and applicability to our higher education clients
- Describe what is compliance risk through a review of the recent IRS audit information data requests
- Identify recently issued tax and compliance guidance relevant within higher education







### **Technical Updates**



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#### Information Return E-file Mandate

- Applies to 1042 and 1042-S for 2023 filings
  - Instructions not clear
- Treasury Decision 9972
- 26 CFR § 301.6011-2 Required use of electronic form.

#### Technical Guide (TG 48) Unrelated Business Income Tax – Updated 12/15/23 (Publication 5894)

#### E-File Form 8300

Updates

- Payments over \$10,000
  - Does not apply to contributions
- Falls under E-File mandate

#### Name Image Likeness Collectives

Generally, not tax-exempt ..."the private benefits they provide to student-athletes are not incidental both qualitatively and quantitatively to any exempt purpose furthered by that activity."





#### Update to Form 990-T

Form <b>990-T</b>	Exempt Organization Business Income Tax Return (and proxy tax under section 6033(e))			OMB No. 1545-0047
	For cal	endar year 2023 or other tax year beginning, 2023, and ending,	20	2023
Department of the Treasury Internal Revenue Service	Do no	Go to www.irs.gov/Form990T for instructions and the latest information. of enter SSN numbers on this form as it may be made public if your organization is a 501	(c)(3).	Open to Public Inspection for 501(c)(3) Organizations Only
A Check box if address changed.	Durint	Name of organization ( Check box if name changed and see instructions.)	D Emp	oloyer identification number
B Exempt under section	Print or Type	Number, street, and room or suite no. If a P.O. box, see instructions.		up exemption number instructions)
408(e) 220(e)		City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code		
408A 530(a)			F	Check box if
529(a) 529A		value of all assets at end of year	Ļ	
G Check organization	on type		ate col	lege/university
		6417(d)(1)(A) Applicable entity		



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#### **Worker Classification**

Impact of Worker Classification on Employee Plans

Ongoing Initiatives

Excise Tax on Form 4720

 990 Filings with compensation of > \$1,000,000 to at lease one individual and no corresponding 4720

**Remote Workforce** 





### **Employee/Independent Contractor Determination**

#### Who is being paid?

What service is being provided and is it related to your core mission?

#### Who is providing the service?

•Faculty/staff •Unrelated third party Are there others in similar employment roles providing a similar service?

Who is determining fee or wage?

Is the payee economically dependent on your institution and what is the duration of the contract? Does the "contractor" have clients other than your institution, and do they hold themselves out as a business?



### **Remote Workforce**

Pre- and Post-Pandemic workforce expectations

Hybrid versus remote

#### **Budget implications**

#### Develop or update related policies and procedures

- How is eligibility determined?
- Schedule
- Home office reimbursement
- Travel/per diem

How do you know where your employees are working?

#### How do you track where they are working?





### **Other Higher Education Compliance Areas**

Nonresident Alien	Sales Tax	Alternative investments (Partnerships and S-Corp interests)	Unrelated Business Income
Foreign Exposure and Nexus	Student FICA exemption	Payroll taxes	Fringe Benefits
Tuition Remission	Private College Endowment Excise Tax	Department of Education Foreign Gift Reporting	Information Returns







### **IRS Audit Activity**



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### What We're Seeing







In determining whether you comply as an organization described in Section 501(c)(3), it is necessary to review your internal controls. Therefore, please provide responses to the following questionnaire and mail them by the stated due date in an electronic format

1. Describe your internal control structure. **Does your organization:** 

2. Use an annual budget or financial plan? 3. Analyze budget variances and report to the Board? 4. Provide monthly income statements to the Board? 5. Provide monthly balance sheets to the Board? 6. Require Board approval of non-budgeted expenses? 7. Require Board approval of checking account signatory's? 8. Use accounting procedure and policy manuals? 9. Require internal audits or performance reviews? 10. Use computer access passwords or security checks? 11. Require multiple signatures and dollar limits for checks? 12. Require independent (external) financial audits? 13. Provide cash payments for expenses or disbursements? 14. Reconcile all bank accounts on a monthly basis? 15. Deposit all receipts in a financial institution? 16. Provide lock and key security for unused checks and drafts? 17. Perform periodic checks for compliance with Federal, State, and local laws, regulations and legal requirements? 18. Restrict access to accounting files and records? 19. Follow record retention and file purge procedures?





Exemption Issues – Activities and Programs a. Please list all your activities and programs.

b. A detailed description of each of your activities conducted in 2019.

c. An explanation of how each activity furthered your exempt purpose.

d. What percentage of your time and resources were spent on each activity.





### Revenue & Expense Deep Dive

#### **Revenue Accounts**

Attached is a sample of the revenue accounts that were reviewed. Please provide the following information for greater clarity.

- 1. Source documents.
- 2. A detailed explanation for the source of revenue.
- 3. Explain what "BFET" and "Muckleshoot" means.
- 4. Provide any contracts that were entered for the sources of revenue identified, "Van Rental."

#### **Expense Accounts**

Attached is a sample of the expense accounts that were sampled.

Please provide the following information for greater clarity.

- 1. An explanation describing the business nature of the expense.
- 2. Source documents supporting the expense: i.e. invoices, receipts, contracts, cancelled checks.
- 3. Explain what "NICMERE," "NARCH-AIWRE" and "NACTEP" mean.

4. It was observed that there were expenses related to a "boat." Please fully explain your ownership in a boat and its purpose.





### Employee/Independent Contractor

#### Invalid TIN

In our review of the Form 1099 information, our records indicate that two individuals were identified as having invalid taxpayer identification numbers, social security numbers ("SSN") in these instances. To clarify the correct SSN, please provide the following: 1. Forms W-9 for each individual. 2. State if you were contacted by the IRS with respect to this discrepancy and if so, what actions did you take to remedy the issue?

#### Worker Clarification:

In our review of the Forms 1099, we sampled 25 workers for the 2018 and 2019 years, which are listed in the schedule below. To clarify the accuracy of the worker classification as independent contractors, please provide the following: 1. Detailed description of the duties performed.

2. State if there are other workers who conduct similar duties but who are issued a Form W-2.

3. Describe how it was determined the workers were properly classified.





### Employee / Independent Contractor

The following documents are requested for the examination of your organization's Forms 941 for tax periods ended March 31, 2021 through December 31, 2022. The following documents are being requested to verify correctness of Forms 941 filed and to determine if the following worker class: Officer-Treasurer was classified correctly. Please refer to the enclosed Publication 1976 Do You Qualify for Relief Under Section 530? Documents can be mailed or faxed. Mailed documents can be provided on a flash drive.

> Information is being requested for the following worker class: Officer / Treasurer





### Employee/Independent Contractor Cont'd

Provide detailed written description of job duties and responsibilities.	Approximate hours worked per week. If there is documentation of hours worked such as a schedule or calendar, provide copies.	Location of where the work is conducted.	Is the position year-round or seasonal? If seasonal, please specify what months.	What is the method of payment? (salary, hourly wage, commission, amount per event, stipend, percent of profit, etc.)
Is the worker eligible for benefits? If so, list the benefits such as health insurance, paid leave, pension plan,	How often are they paid? (weekly, bi-weekly, monthly, etc.)	To whom do they report?	Are they required to keep time sheets or other methods to report their time?	Are they reimbursed for expenses? What expenses are reimbursed and how is it documented?
What job training is provided to the worker?	What instructions are provided concerning the work to be done?	Do they submit written reports?	Who sets or determines their job schedule and assigns their work duties?	What supplies and equipment does the organization provide to the worker?
	er required to own supplies? years,	ed person Provide co vith your job contract n? (Months, if app	or agreement their service	worker make es available to public?



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### **Reasonable Compensation**

During the interview on 11/17/2023, you stated that the president was paid biweekly in 2019, please explain the followings: i. How did you determine how much you want to be paid on your paycheck for each pay period? Did the Board need to approve this? ii. How did you communicatewith your payroll departmentor your accountantdepartment for the amountyou want to be paid? When?

iii. Please submit samples of the communication, if there's any, i.e. emails, memo, etc. iv. How often did you communicate with your payroll department or your accountant department to make the change of your pay?

v. Please submit breakdowns of the president's payroll for each pay period in 2019.





### Legislative & Political Activities

In determining whether you comply as an organization described in Section 501 (c)(3), it is necessary to review and clarify your activities with respect to legislative and political activities. Therefore, please provide responses to the following questionnaire and mail them by the stated due date in an electronic format.

#### Legislative

- 1. Do you urge either the public or your members to contact lawmakers regarding proposing, supporting or opposing specific legislation?
- 2. Do you make direct appeals to lawmakers concerning specific legislation, either in person or by letter?
- 3. Do you donate to or support other organizations, groups, or committees whose primary purpose is to engage in legislative or lobbying activities?
- 4. Do you provide information to the public or to your members concerning legislative issues?
- 5. Do you employ/contract with a professional lobbyist?

#### Political

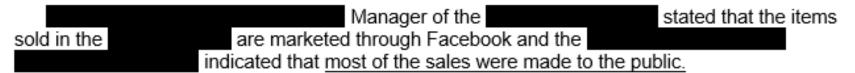
- 1. Do you make donations to political campaigns or endorse political candidates?
- 2. Do you have a political action committee (PAC)?
- 3. Do you donate to any PAC funds?
- 4. Do you collect political campaign donations from your members or the public and remit them to a PAC?
- 5. Do you permit candidates to use your facilities, computers, employees, mailing or membership lists?
- 6. Do you provide non-partisan information about candidates to any persons or groups?
- 7. Do you conduct voter registration drives or promote voter participation in elections?
- 8. Do you allow political intervention, in that do you permit employees to disseminate information using company computers to email staff members and students encouraging or discouraging them to vote for particular candidates running for public office?





### **Unrelated Business Income**

During our on-site visit to primarily clothing and snack items. Items stated that the was at one time a bookstore but because students now typically purchase books on-line, there was no need for the College to sell books.









# If an audit occurs...all compliance areas are potential audit risks



### CLA can help!





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### Monetizing Clean Energy Tax Credits from the Inflation Reduction Act



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### **IRA Snapshot**

Creates and modifies a number of renewable energy credits as well as financing programs.

Effective for tax years beginning on or after Jan 1, 2023.

Section 6417 creates an elective pay option (i.e., cash refund) for tax-exempt organizations.

Section 6418 creates a transferability option for for-profit organizations (i.e., credits can be purchased and sold for cash).

Enacts a series of bonus credits aimed at domestic manufacturing, economic revitalization, and well-paying jobs.

IRS portal launched in Dec. 2023  $\rightarrow$  registration is live.

Treasury and IRS have released some guidance, but more to come.





### **Opportunities for Higher Education**



New building construction and renovations



Fleet electrification and charging infrastructure



HVAC improvements



Solar panel installations Pricing leverage for Section 179D allocations

Capital project forecasting





### **Direct Pay Credits**

§30C Alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit
§45 Electricity produced from certain renewable resources, etc.
§45Q Credit for carbon oxide sequestration
§45U Zero-emission nuclear power production credit
§45V Credit for production of clean hydrogen
§45W Credit for qualified commercial clean vehicles
§45X Advanced manufacturing production credit
§45Y Clean electricity production credit
§45Z Clean fuel production credit

§48 Energy credit

§48C Advanced energy project credit

§48E Clean electricity investment credit







### **Specific Credit Opportunities**



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### Refundable/Transferable Credits

§30C Alternative fuel vehicle refueling property credit

§45 Electricity produced from certain renewable resources, etc.

§45Q Credit for carbon oxide sequestration

§45U Zero-emission nuclear power production credit

§45V Credit for production of clean hydrogen

§45W Credit for qualified commercial clean vehicles (elective pay only)

§45X Advanced manufacturing production credit

§45Y Clean electricity production credit

§45Z Clean fuel production credit

§48 Energy credit

§48C Advanced energy project credit

§48E Clean electricity investment credit





### Section 48 Energy Investment Tax Credit

Tax credit for a percentage of the cost of placing specified energy property into service

Base credit rate is 6%

30% if less than 1 megawatt

#### Applies to:

- Solar
- Wind
- Biogas
- Geothermal
- Energy storage property
- Combined heat and power systems
- Microgrid controllers
- Electrochromic glass





### Section 45 Production Credit

Per kWh credit for production of electricity from renewable sources

Rates vary depending upon energy source

Prevailing wage and other bonus credits available

#### Applies to:

- Solar
- Wind
- Municipal solid waste
- Geothermal
- Biomass
- Hydroelectric





### Section 30C Alternative Fuel Refueling Credit

#### **Credit Amount**

#### Non-Depreciable property

 30% of the cost of any qualified property, up to \$1,000

#### • Depreciable Property

- 6% of the cost of any single item of qualified property not meeting prevailing wage, up to \$100,000
- 30% of the cost of qualified property if prevailing wage is met, up to \$100,000

#### **Basis and Recapture**

- Basis in property must be reduced by amount of the credit
- Basis does not include any property expensed under Section 179
- Recapture required if property ceases to be qualified property





### Section 30C Cont'd

#### **Qualified property**

- Property used for the storage or dispensing of alternative fuel into the fuel tank of a motor vehicle propelled by that fuel
- Includes fuel tanks, pumps, and other property used to transfer fuel

#### **Alternative Fuels**

- Electricity
- At least 85% of its volume consists of one or more of the following:
  - Compressed natural gas
  - Liquified natural gas
  - Liquified petroleum gas
  - Natural gas
  - Hydrogen
  - Ethanol





# **Consensus Tract Requirements**

• Effective 1/1/23, qualified property must be installed in locations that meet the following census tract requirements:

The census tract is not an urban area; A population census tract where the poverty rate is at least 20%; or Metropolitan and nonmetropolitan area census tract where the median family income is does not exceed 80% of the state median family income level





# Section 45W Clean Vehicle Credit



Applies to clean commercial vehicles and mobile machinery acquired or leased after 2022 and before 2033



Credit equals the lesser of:

- 15% of the vehicle's basis (30% if fully electric) or

- Incremental cost of the vehicle



- \$7,500 for vehicles less than 14,000 GVWR, and

- \$40,000 for all others







### **Bonus Credits**



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# Prevailing Wage and Apprenticeship

Increases the base credit by 5X generally

A prevailing wage is a wage the federal government requires to be paid by contractors to workers under the Davis-Bacon Act

Hourly wage plus overtime and benefits as set by the Department of Labor based on the locality where the construction, alteration, or repair is being performed

> Apprentices must work a certain percentage of the total labor hours depending on when construction of begins





# **Energy Communities**

- Projects are eligible for an additional bonus credit of 2% (10% if 5X multiplier applied) if the facility is located in any of the following:
  - A brownfield site
  - An area that:

Has (or, at any time during the period beginning after December 31, 2009, had) 0.17% or greater direct employment or 25% or greater local tax revenues related to the extraction, processing, transport, or storage of coal, oil, or natural gas, or

Has an unemployment rate above the national average for the previous year, or Has a census tract or a census tract that is adjoining a census tract in which a coal mine has closed after 1999 or a coalfired electric generating unit was retired after 2009





## Low-Income Communities



Project is built in a low-income community as defined by the New Markets Tax Credit or on Indian Land can receive an increased tax credit of 10%



Project associated with a low-income residential building project, or a low-income economic benefit project, can receive an increased tax credit of 20%





# **Domestic Content Bonus**

- Projects are eligible for an additional bonus credit of 2% (10% if 5X multiplier applied) if the following conditions are met:
  - 100% of any steel or iron that is a component of the facility is manufactured in the United States
  - Not less than 40% of the manufactured components of the facility are manufactured in the United States

# 100% of steel and iron produced from the US

At least 40% of manufactured components produced in US





### **Domestic Content Bonus Continued**

Causing headaches for manufacturers, especially those making components for the solar and wind energy space.

Customers are asking for representations that products are manufactured in the United States. Working its way into contracts as standard language and we're seeing some problematic provisions.

Who is required to document it? Customer claiming the credit or manufacturer supplying the products? Must classify project components as "Steel or Iron" or as a "Manufactured Product" → not as straightforward as you would think.

Taxpayers claiming the bonus credit must file a certifications statement with that return.





## **Credit Rate Tables**

Category	Amount* for Projects less than 1MW <sub>AC</sub> (Cumulative)	Amount* for Projects greater than 1MW <sub>AC</sub> (Cumulative)
Base Tax Credit	ITC: 30% PTC:2.75¢/kWh	ITC: 6% PTC: 0.5¢/kWh
Wage & Apprenticeship Requirements (Requires a percentage of total labor hours performed by qualified apprentices)	ITC: N/A PTC: N/A	ITC: +24% PTC:+2.25¢/kWh

www.epa.gov/green-power-markets/summary-inflation-reduction-act-provisions-related-renewable-energy



# Credit Rate Tables Cont'd

Category	Amount* for Projects less than 1MW <sub>AC</sub> (Cumulative)	Amount* for Projects greater than 1MW <sub>AC</sub> (Cumulative)
Domestic Content Minimums (% attributable to U.S. Manufactured Products)	ITC: +10% PTC: +0.3¢/kWh	ITC: +10% PTC: +0.3¢/kWh
Siting in Energy Community ex. Brownfield site, area related to mining operations)	ITC: +10% PTC: +0.3¢/kWh	ITC: +10% PTC: +0.3¢/kWh
Siting in Low-Income Community or on Indian Land (<5 MW <sub>AC</sub> )	ITC: +10% PTC: N/A	ITC: +10% PTC: N/A
Qualified Low-Income Residential Building Project or Economic Benefit Project	ITC: +20% PTC: N/A	ITC: +20% PTC: N/A

www.epa.gov/green-power-markets/summary-inflation-reduction-act-provisions-related-renewable-energy





## **Credit Monetization**



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# **Claiming Direct Payments**

#### **Pre-filing registration**

- Must be completed prior to filing the tax return where a direct pay election is made
- IRS is advising 120 days to process
- Must provide certain information about organization, the credits you intend to claim, and details regarding the property giving rise to the credit
- A registration number will be issued that will be required when making the election on tax return
- IRS will issue a separate registration number for each applicable credit property

#### Making the election on a tax return

- Must be filed on Form 990-T by due date (including extensions) along with
- o Form 3800 (General Business Credit)
- $\circ$  Applicable credit form
- $\circ$  Organizations should consider extending returns to allow for 120-day processing times







# Section 179D Deduction Allocations



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# Section 179D Energy Efficient Building Deduction

#### How it works

- Per square foot deduction for the construction or renovation of energy efficient buildings
- Sliding scale up to \$5.00 per sq. ft. if prevailing wage/apprenticeship requirements are met
- Based on ASHRAE energy efficiency standards
- Buildings must be modeled and certified by third-party engineer

#### **Opportunity for higher education**

- Deduction can be allocated by institutions to designers of building systems (often this will be the architect)
- Allocation process is simple (standard letter template)
- Could mean indirect benefit to institutions through pricing negotiations
- Plan for it during bid and proposal phase of projects



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# Break

# 12 – 12:10 p.m.

\*please note, we will be doing a sound check with our speakers during this time - the next session will start at 12:10 p.m.



# Stress and Burnout: Understanding, Exploration, and Survival February 20, 2024

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# Learning Objectives

- Describe the phenomenon of burnout and how it is affecting individuals and U.S. companies
- Recognize your current level of burnout and identify areas of your life that may be contributing to feelings of overwhelming stress
- Explain the stress response cycle and the emotional and physiological repercussions that emerge as a result of experiencing stress
- Identify tools that can aid in effectively managing stress and combating burnout







# Understanding



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# Burnout is an official medical diagnosis, World Health Organization says







# May 28, 2019





# Burnout – what exactly is it?

Feelings of energy depletion or exhaustion

# Increased mental distance from one's job or feelings of negativism or cynicism related to one's job

# Reduced professional efficacy







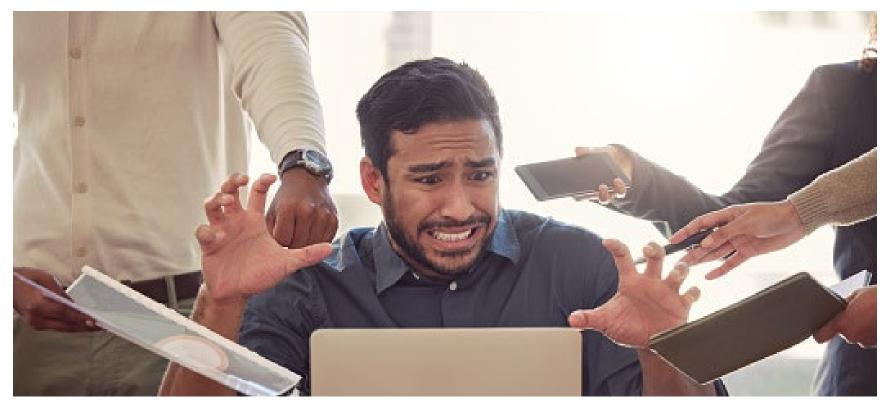
# **Burnout Statistics**

300 billion	\$190 billion	89%	84%	43%
Employee burnout costs companies \$300 billion per year in lost productivity	Workplace stress in the US costs corporations nearly \$190 billion each year because of employee mortality and overall health costs	89% of workers have experienced burnout within the past year	84% of millennials say they've experienced burnout in their current position	43% of middle managers report burnout





# Burnout – what causes it?





©2024 CliftonLarsonAllen LLP Built up stress that hasn't been managed



# Sources of Burnout



Dr. Christina Maslach, The Burnout Challenge: Managing People's Relationships with Their Jobs



# Exploration

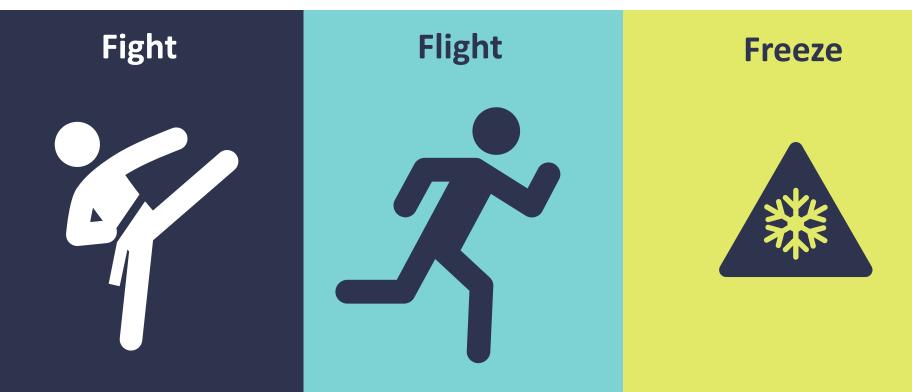


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# Adrenaline

# Cortisol

# **Your Stress Personality**







# **Your Stress Personality**

# Α

- Irritated
- Annoyed
- Frustrated
- Angry
- Impatient
- Touchy

### B

- Unsure
- Worried
- Anxious
- Scared
- Restless
- Claustrophobic

### С

- Shut down
- Numb
- Disconnected
- Immobilized
- Discouraged
- Seek protection





# **Your Stress Personality**

### Fight A

- Irritated
- Annoyed
- Frustrated
- Angry
- Impatient
- Touchy

### Flight B

- Unsure
- Worried
- Anxious
- Scared
- Restless
- Claustrophobic

# Freeze C

- Shut down
- Numb
- Disconnected
- Immobilized
- Discouraged
- Seek protection





# What happens in our bodies?











# **Chronic Stress**



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# Survival



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# Resilience is your rain jacket.









# Mindset

# Mindset





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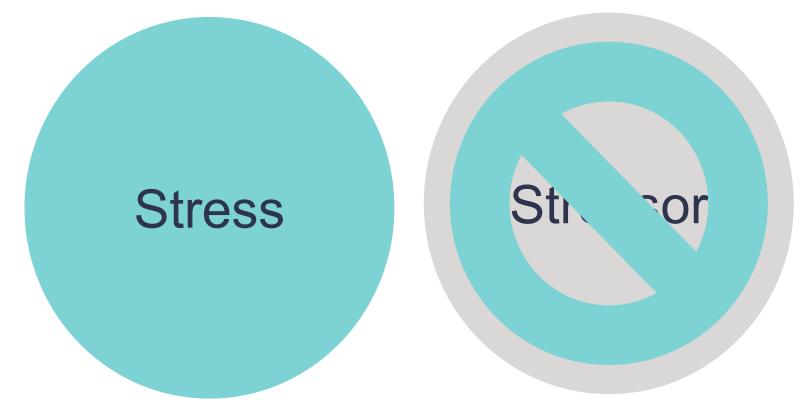
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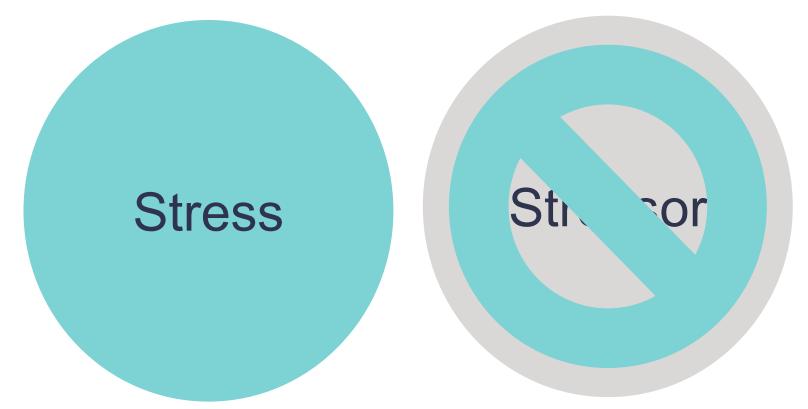






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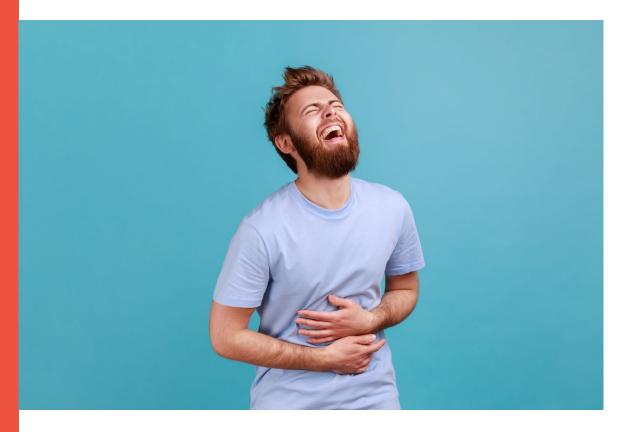
### **Positive Social Interaction**

2



-A

## Laughter





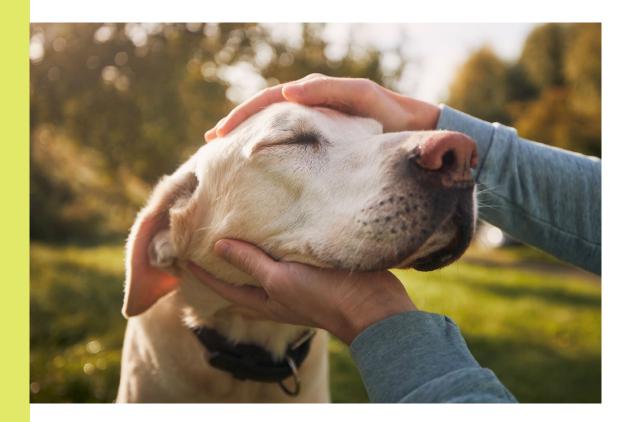






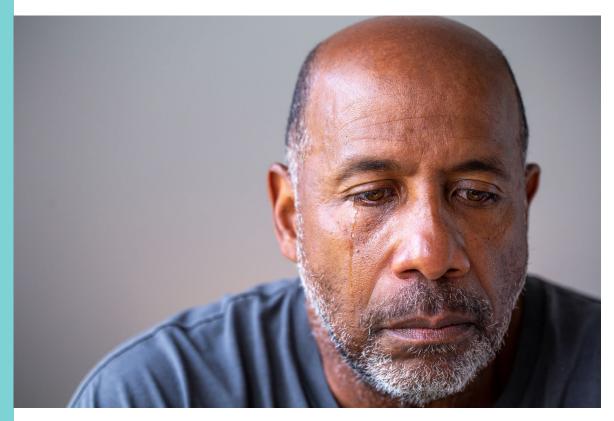














## **Creative expression**







## **Spirituality**





## Breathing









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### How will you complete the cycle?

Move	Positive Social Interaction	Laughter
Affection	Pets	Crying
Creative Expression	Spirituality	Breathing





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# Break

### 1 – 1:10 p.m.

\*please note, we will be doing a sound check with our speakers during this time - the next session will start at 1:10 p.m.



# Capital Projects – Protecting Your Investment February 20, 2024

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### Learning Objectives

- Identify the best practices for capital project audit programs
  - Recall what you learned about the summary of construction knowledge
  - Identify the interaction of facilities, internal audit, finance, and external auditors







### **Tom Dearnley** Managing Principal of Industry, CLA

**Tiffany Yordan** Senior Internal Auditor Princeton University

#### Anita Misri

Executive Director Facilities Capital Finance and Procurement Hector Rivera Director, Internal Controls Dartmouth







# **Panel Discussion**





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### *Tom Dearnley* Managing Principal of Industry tom.dearnely@CLAconnect.com



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## Break

## 2 – 2:05 p.m.

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# Navigating the Consolidation Wave: Mergers and Acquisitions in Higher Education

February 20, 2024

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# Today's Panel







## Learning Objectives



Recognize the challenges higher education institutions are facing



Recall what you heard from a panel of leaders about their recent experiences and options







### **Industry Challenges**







### **Transformative Options**







### Challenges

### Misaligned objectives

### Inexperienced negotiators

### Ad hoc approach to finding a partner

### Insufficient due diligence

Inadequate attention to integration and change management

Complex stakeholder dynamics





## Getting it Right

# Define a starting position with clear goals

National or regional anchors with strong financial positioning Regional or sector-focused institutions Regional or local institutions struggling to achieve financial sustainability

Statewide systems looking to integrate institutions

Conduct sweeping scans and due diligence Understand merger process Identify merger candidates Execution of merger

Plan and prepare the implementation infrastructure Integration management and governance University planning, goal setting, and goal realization University talent and organizational design structure Culture, communications, and change management







### It takes balance.™

It's our job to engage in conversations, listen to what you really want, and apply our talents and experience to make extraordinary impact on your organization and life.



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### Closing



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